REMARKS

Claims 1-23 have been cancelled and new claims 24-46 have been added. The amendments to the claims have been made only to improve the form of the claims for examination purposes.

The specification and abstract have been amended to conform it to U.S. format.

It is submitted that no new matter is presented by this Amendment.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Gerald H. Kiel

Reg. No. 25,116

May 25, 2004 REED SMITH LLP 599 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10022 GHK:jl

Enc.:

Substitute Specification

Substitute Abstract

Marked-up/Bolded Versions